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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Wen Gao et al.

Filed

Herewith

For

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DECODING IN A HIERARCHICAL MODULATION SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents MAIL STOP PCT P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Sir:

In the US national phase application of PCT/US04/13735 herewith, please file the following amendments and enter remarks as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Listing and Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.